

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Transportation Budget - Drivers' Licenses

Purpose and History

This appropriation from the Road Use Tax Fund to the Department of Transportation (DOT), funds the costs associated with the production of drivers' licenses. The costs represent the lease of the Driver's License Digitized Photo Imagine System. The cost of the lease for the Imaging System is based on the number of licenses issued and the estimated cost per driver's license. There are more than 2.2 million licensed drivers in Iowa.

Between 865,000 and 1.1 million drivers' licenses are issued annually. A graduated driver's license, or intermediate license, is issued to all first-time licensees under the age of 18. A full license is available to drivers age 17 and over provided they have completed a one-year period of driving without a moving violation or a motor vehicle crash. Beginning in 2014, Iowa drivers' licenses began transitioning from five-year to eight-year license terms. For more information regarding this transition, see the [DOT website](#). For qualified drivers, a license renewal may be completed electronically using the DOT's [myMVD website](#).

State Funding

The annual appropriation for this function has been static at \$3.9 million since FY 2010. A provision included in the Transportation Appropriations Act permits the DOT to carry unexpended and unobligated funds forward to the subsequent fiscal year and remain available for expenditure for the purposes of paying drivers' license issuance costs.

Related Statutes

Iowa Code chapter [321](#) and sections 321.17 through 321.200A
[761](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [602](#)

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More Information

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>

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